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**STEVEN DOVAS CHARGED WITH USING THE INTERNET TO MEET A
MINOR GIRL FOR SEXUAL ACTIVITY**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and PASQUALE D'AMURO, the Assistant Director in Charge of the New York Office of the FBI, announced that STEVEN DOVAS was arrested yesterday in Manhattan after he had arranged to meet a person he believed to be a thirteen-year-old girl he had met over the Internet in order to engage in sexual activities.

According to the Complaint filed earlier today in Manhattan federal court, from early January 2004, through October 4, 2004, DOVAS, using the screen name "Roy L. Pain," communicated with an individual he believed to be a thirteen-year-old girl, but was actually a special agent of the FBI acting in an undercover capacity. According to the Complaint, DOVAS initiated over 40 separate internet conversations and a number of telephone conversations with the undercover agent, in which he described in

graphic terms the sexual activities he intended to engage in with the young girl.

The defendant will be presented later today before United States Magistrate Judge HENRY B. PITMAN in Manhattan federal court.

The Complaint charges DOVAS with one count of using the Internet to persuade, induce, entice, and coerce an individual younger than 18-years-old to engage in sexual activity. If convicted, the defendant faces 30 years' imprisonment, including 5 years' minimum mandatory imprisonment, 5 years' supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment.

STEVEN DOVAS, 42, is a resident of Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. KELLEY praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in this case and said that the investigation is continuing.

Assistant United States Attorney REED MICHAEL BRODSKY is in charge of the prosecution.

The charge contained in the Complaint is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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